

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Lamont County Extends Its Support for Ukraine

January 25, 2022 – LAMONT, AB: STATEMENT – As the *Cradle of Ukrainian Settlement in Canada*, Lamont County has a strong Ukrainian history, including welcoming the first settlers from Ukraine into Canada.

Lamont County is also twinned with the Perehinske Community Village (Nebyliv, Ukraine). The County has strong ties with Ukraine, and it is with this in mind, that we support both the Canadian and Alberta efforts to prevent conflict in the region.

While we hope no further aggression occurs, Lamont County stands strong with Ukraine and its people; we support Alberta and Canada's position to impose the strongest diplomatic sanctions should Russia move to invade Ukraine (as well as any further actions necessary to reduce and control further Russian aggression).

"Our county has a strong Ukrainian heritage, and many residents are concerned for family that still resides in Ukraine," said Lamont County Reeve, David Diduck. "We want to offer our support to both Ukraine and to our governments, including standing strong with the letter sent from Alberta's Advisory Council on Alberta-Ukraine Relations."

We are united with the World, in our commitment to Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity as a diplomatic state while it faces continued Russian aggression.

We are concerned for our families, relatives and other ancestors who reside in Ukraine and may be exposed to further conflict.

We hope for a peaceful resolution (and consolidated ceasefire).

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[Enclosure: Alberta MLA/Chair of Advisory Council on Alberta-Ukraine Relations, Ms. Armstrong-Homeniuk's January 20 letter to the Prime Minister]

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY ALBERTA Jackie Armstrong-Homeniuk

MLA, Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville January 20, 2022

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, P.C., M.P. Prime Minister of Canada 80 Wellington Street Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A2

Prime Minister Trudeau

I am writing you today as chair for the Advisory Council on Alberta-Ukraine Relations out of grave concern for Ukraine.

As you know, Russia has positioned approximately 100,000 troops on Ukraine's borders and there have been reports an invasion is imminent. This follows years of Russian aggression against Ukraine, including the 2014 annexation of Crimea.

Alberta's government stands strong with Ukraine and its people. Should Russia move to invade Ukraine, whether it be a minor incursion or a full-scale invasion, Alberta supports Canada imposing the strongest sanctions possible against Russia and evoking any other actions necessary to blunt Russian force. As chair for the Advisory Council on Alberta-Ukraine Relations and as a person of Ukrainian descent, I hold the nation and people of Ukraine near to my heart. I will continue to monitor the situation in Ukraine and hope to have open doors of communication with your government on this matter in the days to come.

Kind regards,

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Jackie Armstrong-Homeniuk MLA, Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville Chair of Advisory Council on Alberta-Ukraine Relations

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